# A Framework to Support Family Engagement in Children's Learning through Libraries

# Library Elements to Support Family Engagement

KADERSHIP ENGAGEMENT Create possibility Reach out Build professional capacity Raise up Secure resources Reinforce Learn and improve Relate Reimagine Update collections Create welcoming spaces Provide technology access and guidance SUPPORT SERVICES

### **Outcomes**

## LIBRARIES WILL:

- Increase outreach to underserved families
- Elevate family voice and perspectives in designing services
- Facilitate peer-to-peer interactions
- Build family engagement pathways from early childhood through young adulthood
- Increase partnerships with community agencies
- Provide spaces that promote family interaction

### **FAMILIES WILL:**

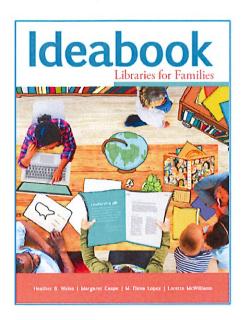
- Be more knowledgeable about library resources
- Improve their health, well-being, and positive parenting practices
- Be more connected to peers in the community
- Increase their knowledge, skills, and confidence to support children's learning
- Improve their ability to advocate for their community and the library
- Be more knowledgeable about how to access community resources

### **CHILDREN WILL:**

- Be more prepared for school
- Have more support with their school work
- Improve their skills to fulfill their interests
- Be on a pathway to lifelong learning
- Experience positive interactions with their families

Adapted from *Ideabook: Libraries for Families,* by Heather B. Weiss, Margaret Caspe, M. Elena Lopez, and Lorette McWilliams.

# Global Family Research Project



Ideabook: Libraries for Families was recently released by the Global Family Research Project and the Public Library Association.

The report describes the 5Rs framework - reaching out, raising up, reinforcing, relating, and reimagining - and offers innovative ideas for educators and librarians interested in creating meaningful family engagement experiences.

Inside the Ideabook, you will find many examples of family-libraryearly childhood partnerships. For example:

- Súper Kínder at Hennepin County Library (Minnesota) supports Spanish-speaking children and families in preparing for kindergarten.
- Library cafés at Carroll County Public Library (Maryland) bring families of young children together to build relationships and share information.
- An early literacy texting initiative at Brooklyn Public Library (New York) helps families promote learning at home.
- A collaboration among families, librarians, and early childhood teachers throughout the Pierce County Library System (Washington) promotes block play and young children's mathematical learning.

Visit www.globalfrp.org to download the Ideabook and learn more!

